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such as striæ, ridges, pits, knob-like elevations, etc., are not frequent enough when sufficiently small to produce grating effects, and in fact are not normal occurrences."

The colors of the feathers, he says, when observed without a microscope, are evidently mixed colors. "The greenish effects are produced when light strikes the broad surfaces of the barbules and is reflected with a small angle of reflection. The reds appear only when light falls with a large angle of incidence on the pigment granules of a margin or elevated portion of a barbule. We seem to have a clear case of Newton's rings where each pigment granule comes in contact with the outer transparent layer."

This preliminary statement will be followed by a more detailed account, illustrated with figures.—J. A. A.

Mearns on Three New Birds from the Southern United States.¹—These are a new Grasshopper Sparrow (*Coturniculus savannarum floridanus*) from southern Florida, where it is the resident form; the Florida Purple Martin (*Progne purpurea floridana*), and a new Nuthatch (*Sitta carolinensis nelsoni*) from the southern Rocky Mountains.—J. A. A.

Oberholser on New South American Birds.²—Mr. Oberholser has described in the present paper one new genus and 13 new species and subspecies of South American birds, mainly from specimens in the U. S. National Museum, but in part based on material from the American Museum of Natural History. Mr. Oberholser also expresses his views of the proper arrangement of the *Thryophilus leucotis* group, of which he recognizes ten species and subspecies.—J. A. A.

Oberholser on Birds from Paraguay.³—The collection of birds here reported upon "consists of 78 specimens, representing 65 species and subspecies, several of which," says the author, "appear to be unrecorded from Paraguay." Among these were seven species and subspecies which Mr. Oberholser, in the paper noticed above, introduced to science as new, and here redescribes in greater detail. Mr. Oberholser also discusses at length the nomenclature and relationships of quite a number of the species here under notice.—J. A. A.

¹ Descriptions of Three New Birds from the Southern United States. By Edgar A. Mearns, Major and Surgeon, U. S. Army. Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., Vol. XXIV, No. 1274, pp. 915-926.

² Some New South American Birds. By Harry C. Oberholser. Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., Vol. XXV, No. 1276, pp. 59-68.

³ List of Birds collected by William Foster in Paraguay. By Harry C. Oberholser. Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., Vol. XXV, No. 1281, pp. 127-147, 1902.